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The attached Interrogation Report on Obgefr. KELLER, formerly of Auswertestelle 4 and Nachrichten Aufklaerungskompanie 611, has been provided by GSI (S), H.Q., 21 Army Group.

The interrogation took place at Kriegslazarett, KALTENKIRCHEN, on 8. Aug., 1945.

Further questions are to be put to this POW., the results of which will be issued.

TICOM
27. August, 1945

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SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION WITH OBGEFR. KELLER, A.
AT KRIEGSLAZARETT, KALTENKIRCHEN, ON 8. AUG., 1945.

KELLER was born in KHARTOUM on 3. April, '14. He is of Austrian nationality and has a French wife (born in Egypt). His French is apparently perfect and his English, too is very good. His one thought at the moment is to get back to British occupied AUSTRIA, where his wife and children are living.

SERVICE.

Earlier in the war he was employed as an interpreter, but in 1942 he was posted to the Nachrichten Aufklaerungs - Auswertestelle 4, which unit remained in GREECE until Sept. 44. After this the unit moved to BELGRADE and in December 44 KELLER was transferred to the Nachrichten Aufklaerungs - Kompanie 611, which was stationed at ZUTPHEN.

EMPLOYMENT.

GREECE - Dec. 1942 - Sept. 1944.

KELLER was evidently an expert in deciphering French messages, since he volunteers much information on this subject. He recalled the job he had dealing with traffic taken from the French garrison at BIR HACHEIM. The ciphers seemed impossible at first, but the difficulties were overcome. When the De GAULLISTES used the systems in SYRIA, their job was an easy one. The two ciphers mentioned were: the "CONTROL BEDOUIN" and the "SERVICE POLITIQUE." While in GREECE, KELLER had the job of deciphering Arabic since Egyptian Army and Camel Corps traffic was taken. He also dealt with some British traffic from NORTH AFRICA.

BELGRADE - Sept. 1944 - Dec. 1944.

Section dealt with messages passed by TITO and MIKHAILOVITCH. Rumanian, Bulgarian and Hungarian and Russian messages (as the Russians advanced into the Balkans) were also deciphered.

ZUTPHEN - Dec. 1944 - (Kpie 611 occupied a house opposite the school near the Vandyk church)

Busy with Slidex, which presented no difficulties. He was with regt. 6, with a Maj. LECHNER in charge. They were under Army Gp. BLASKOWITZ. The forward parties in HOLLAND spent the winter tapping the lines of the Polish Armd. Div. They rowed over the MAAS at night and their Polish speakers "tapped in." These "HORCH TRUPPS" were never molested.

Nr. FLENSBURG

Unit moved later to a place near FLENSBURG and came under OB NORDWEST (FM. BUSCH), where they were in communication with Ia.

KELLER'S main concern was to locate the rest of the "team" of Auswertestelle 4. If they can be found, we shall have all the information we need. These men are:-

1. Sgt. GAHLMANN, Karl. Comes from ESSEN. A non-linguist, but a first class mathematician and the finest of the decipherers. He deciphered all messages.

2. Oblt. KNESCHKE, Alfred. Comes from SAXONY. A mathematician and a first class decipherer. With the section until Nov. 44, then went to the OKW. at JUTERBORG.

3. Obwm. WINKLER, Otto. Lives in VIENNA - Liliengasse 1. An expert on GREEK messages.

4. Uffz. STROBEL. An expert on GREEK.

5. Uffz. OPITZ. Expert on TITO and MIKHAILOVITCH. Transferred in Nov. 44 to Kpie 964 in AGRAM.

6. Obgefr. BLUMENFELD. Well known at OKW., where he worked as a civilain at first. Expert on Bulgarian, Russian and Rumanian. In SPAIN at first.

7. Obgefr. PROBST (nickname "HECK"). A lawyer in BERLIN. Expert on British codes and a mathematician.

8. Obgefr. SCHUPPE of Saxony. Wrote treatise on Maths. English specialist.

9. Obgefr. SCHWEGMANN. Knows all about the TITO and MIKHAILOVITCH messages and systems, as he did the registration of same. Wife lives in GRAZ.

10. Oberinspektor GEYER. Specialises in TITO and MIKHAILOVITCH messages.

The "Auswertung" - (evaluation) was done by Oblt. MOEREN, who comes from FRANKFURT am MAIN, the comd. of the evaluation team.

KELLER knew little about the Sigs. side of the unit. He put the size of the 611 Coy. (in HOLLAND) as 30 - 40 ops - who took Morse and English R/T, 10 decipherers, and 25 evaluators. Ordinary German receiving sets were used. Operators had to be young men of strong nerves. He mentioned two cases of ops actually going mad because of the strain of 8 hours continuous figure morse!

He mentioned our SLIDEX codes and remarked that the "FLIVO" traffic was broken with ease every day, mainly because of the stereotyped messages - usually dealing with the weather. The idea was to go out and have a look at the weather and then return to deal with the messages!

Our machine cipher was believed unbreakable, but the American was tackled in Berlin with approximately 2% success. The conclusion was that it wasn't worth it.

M.209 ?